

November 1, 2021

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 1st day of November, 2021 at the hour of 6:00 P.M., for a meeting pursuant to call in accordance with the rules of the Council. The meeting was called to order by Linda Brouillette, Town Council President. On call of the roll of the members of the Council were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Linda Brouillette, Steve Sorenson, Pat Claire, Jason Fisher, Mike Sanders

Also Present: Lee Klemme, John Budreau, Brad Lane

Disconnect Hearing

Rosie Cochran was present for the disconnect hearing. She explained to the Council reasons that she needs to extend her payment plan agreement. After the discussion, the Council agreed to extend her payment plan agreement. She is to come to Town Hall on Tuesday and sign the paperwork and go over the new payment plan.

Mike Sanders motioned to proceed with disconnects, with the exception of Rosie Cochran. Pat Claire seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Prior Minutes

Steve Sorenson made the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 18. Pat Claire seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Miscellaneous Business

Harold Holdeman was present to discuss yard waste. Below is the letter he wrote for the Town Council to be included in the minutes:

“I come here this evening to interview for the job of being a citizen of Fowler, Indiana. The job of citizenship is not a lone one person job. It is part of a team activity. This means that I must present myself in such a way that you will want me as a member of the community. I am here not asking for something for myself. I am here as a volunteer who is trying to make our community better. I am volunteering at the Benton County Historical Society. I am doing what has been neglected for years. I am cleaning up the lawn of what historically was a beautiful home where the owner entertained the elite of the community: but it is now rapidly becoming a run-down community property. We make this a great community when all citizens have an equal chance to be valued citizens who each contribute something. I am trying to make my contribution by volunteering my time and talent doing what others do not want to do-cutting overgrown bushes and cleaning up this neglected property; but I need other parts of the community to support my efforts. I and many other members of this community need help finding a way to dispose of yard debris-plant, bushes, and tree parts. Our community is lettered with overgrown properties and properties with piles of the remains of trees and bushes. When I called the city hall to inquire of the past Saturday’s yard debris disposal I was told I would have to haul it to a central collection point. I like many citizens do not have a truck. There is no equipment rental business within a 30-mile radius. How do I solve my problem in a community where services are very limited. We do not even have a functioning

grocery store where poor citizen who worked hard all their lives at minimum wage jobs can now walk from their homes to get quality fresh fruits and vegetables. It appears to me that we need the support of a community service that will run already existing trucks to our properties to pick up our yard debris. There are just over 30 miles of streets in our town and city trucks could run routes once a month to collect this debris and dispose of it in a community composting project. This would keep this out of the landfills and reduce the methane generated by our landfills. And it just might make our community look better which would improve property values which improves the tax base which could pay for this added service. It possibly could also improve the quality of life in our community. A community with happy citizens is usually a good safe community in which to live. The choice is now in your hands. You can now do one of two things. You can say, "well we listened to the complaining old man now; and now he can go home and we will forget his complaining" or, you can take action and make our community a better place because leadership solves problems leading to a better place where quality of life is the way of life. Thank you for giving me your time."

After the Council discussed this with Mr Holdeman, Mr Holdeman will be bringing a list of needed things to be done to the Town Hall and they will be given to local groups that volunteer their time to help those in need in the community.

Unfinished Business

The Parking Ordinance 2021-1004-5 was brought back to the Council to discuss further. Discussion was held on possibly adding handicap spots to the Ordinance. The Council would like to have the Apartment residents back to the next meeting to discuss this further.

Department Heads

John Budreau was present and told the Council he was preparing for leaf pickup.

Sara Finley was present and asked the Council if she and her 1st Deputy Clerk Kim Bratton could attend the State Board of Accounts meeting the week of Nov 7-10. Jason Fisher motion to accept the classes. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

Claims

Mike Sanders made the motion to approve and pay all claims. Jason Fisher seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Adjournment

With no further business, Linda Brouillette motions to adjourn, Steve Sorenson seconds the motion. All in favor motion carried.

Approved:

Linda Brouillette, Council President

Attest:

Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer